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EXAMINER	
SMITH, PETER J	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/534,824	EDGE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Peter J. Smith	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 August 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-50* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-50* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: amendment filed 8/8/2005.

2. The objection to claims 26-43 has been dropped in response to the amendment of independent claims 26, 32, and 38.

3. Claims 1-50 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 10, 18, 26, 32, 38, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, and 50 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vyncke et al. (hereinafter "Vyncke"), US 5,926,185 patented 7/20/1999, cited in Applicant's 10/20/2000 IDS in view of Adobe Illustrator 8.0 (hereinafter "Illustrator"), (Help Section) "Using Gradients, Blends, and Patterns," Changing gradients, blends and patterns into filled objects, pages 1-2, cited in Applicant's 10/20/2000 IDS.

Regarding independent claims 1, 10, and 18, Vyncke teaches identifying complex page description commands and replacing them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches identifying and simplifying implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel image

file. Thus, Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 2, 11, and 19, Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 wherein page description color commands are identified and converted without raster image processing the page description file.

Regarding dependent claims 3, 12, and 20, Vyncke teaches in col. 6 lines 34-45 that the individual colors of the implicit color command may be modified by the user. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands

in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. Since the expand command teaching of Illustrator teaches a set of explicit color command objects, the objects can then be independently manipulated, thus allowing modification of the color values specified by the explicit color commands.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 4, 13, and 21, Vyncke teaches identifying a one or more implicit color commands which define reproductions of graphic image objects over a color range in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 5, 14, and 22, Vyncke teaches simplifying substantially all of the implicit color commands within the page description file in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and

Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 6, 15, and 23, Vyncke teaches identifying a one or more shading implicit color commands which define graphic image objects characterized by a starting color value, an ending color value, and a shading function over a range of color values between the starting color value and the ending color value in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 7, 16, and 24, Vyncke teaches identifying a one or more shading implicit color commands which define graphic image objects characterized by a starting

color value, an ending color value, and a shading function over a range of color values between the starting color value and the ending color value in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands, wherein the explicit color commands are a plurality of sub-objects, each of the sub-objects being assigned a color value corresponding to a color value produced by the shading function in an area of the graphic image object corresponding to the respective sub-object in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 8, 17, and 25, Vyncke teaches wherein the color values include cyan, magenta, yellow, and black color values in col. 6 line 46 – col. 7 line 46.

Regarding dependent claim 9, Vyncke teaches identifying a one or more implicit color commands and replacing them with simplified implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line

46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands, wherein the explicit color commands, upon raster image processing, define visual output that is analogous to visual output defined by the corresponding implicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding independent claims 26, 32, and 38, Vyncke teaches identifying complex page description commands and replacing them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches identifying and simplifying implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel

image file. Thus, Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to plurality of implicit color sub-commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of color sub-commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of colored band sub-commands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. The figure also shows a color command being converted into a plurality of color sub-commands which are individually manipulable. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with implicit color sub-commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 27, 33, and 39, Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 wherein page description color commands are identified and converted without raster image processing the page description file.

Regarding dependent claims 28, 34, and 40, Vyncke teaches in col. 6 lines 34-45 that the individual colors of the implicit color command may be modified by the user.

Regarding dependent claims 29, 35, and 41, Vyncke teaches simplifying substantially all of the implicit color commands within the page description file in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to color sub-commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of color sub-commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of colored band sub-commands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. The figure also shows a color command being converted into a plurality of color sub-commands which are individually manipulable. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with implicit color sub-commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 30, 36, and 42, Vyncke teaches simplifying substantially all of the implicit color commands within the page description file in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to color sub-commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of color sub-commands in pages 1 and 2. Illustrator teaches in page 1 that the color sub-commands

can be converted into explicit color commands. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicit color command bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. The figure also shows a color command being converted into a plurality of color sub-commands which are individually manipulable. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with implicit color sub-commands and explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claims 31, 37, and 43, Vyncke teaches wherein the color values include cyan, magenta, yellow, and black color values in col. 6 line 46 – col. 7 line 46.

Regarding independent claims 44, 45, and 46, Vyncke teaches identifying complex page description commands and replacing them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches identifying and simplifying implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel image file. Thus, Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke teaches in col. 6 lines 34-45 that the individual colors of the implicit color command may be modified by the user, but does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands which are individually modifiable. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands which are individually modifiable in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding independent claim 47, Vyncke teaches identifying complex page description commands and replacing them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches identifying and simplifying implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel image file. Thus,

Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting and replacing an identified implicit color command into a set of explicit color commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding independent claim 48, Vyncke teaches parsing a page description file to identify complex page description commands and replace them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches parsing a page description file to identify and simplify implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel image file. Thus, Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit

the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke does not teach converting and replacing the implicit color commands with explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting and replacing an identified implicit color command with a set of explicit color commands that approximate the function and content defined by the identified implicit color command in pages 1 and 2. The figure shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Regarding dependent claim 49, Vyncke teaches leaving intact implicit spatial commands within a page description file without converting the implicit spatial commands to explicit spatial commands in col. 1 line 44 – col. 2 line 17.

Regarding independent claim 50, Vyncke teaches identifying complex page description commands and replacing them with simplified page description commands in the abstract, and

col. 2 line 41 – col. 3 line 17. Vyncke teaches identifying and simplifying implicit color commands in fig. 4-5 and col. 5 line 46 – col. 6 line 45. Vyncke teaches in col. 1 lines 56-57 that it is desirable to edit the page description command objects instead of the pixel image file. Thus, Vyncke teaches that it is desirable to edit the commands of the page description language before the commands are sent to a raster image processor.

Vyncke does not teach converting the implicit color commands to explicit color commands. Illustrator does teach converting an identified implicit shading command that defines a graphic image object characterized by a starting color value, an ending color value, and a shading function over a range of color values between the starting color value and the ending color value into a set of explicit color commands, wherein the explicit color commands for the implicit shading command define the graphic image object as a plurality of sub-objects, each of the sub-objects being assigned a color value corresponding to a color value produced by the shading function in an area of the graphic image object corresponding to the respective sub-object in pages 1 and 2. Illustrator teaches that the explicit command sub-objects are individually manipulable and thus can each have a color value modified by a user in pages 1 and 2.

The figure on page 1 of Illustrator shows a gradient being transformed into a set of explicitly colored bands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. Illustrator teaches that this can be particularly useful if there is difficultly printing objects containing the implicit gradients or blends. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Illustrator and Vyncke to have created the claimed invention. It would have been obvious and

desirable to have modified the page description command identification and replacement technique of Vyncke with the ability to replace implicit color commands with explicit color commands as is taught by Illustrator so that the document could have been appropriately modified to have overcome printing problems. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 8/8/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 11-14 that Vyncke et al. (hereinafter "Vyncke") and Adobe Illustrator 8.0 Help (hereinafter "Illustrator") do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 1-25, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant argues that Vyncke does not identify page description language (PDL) commands, however, the Examiner believes Vyncke does indeed identify implicit color commands despite use of an object display list (ODL). The claimed invention merely requires "identifying at least some of the implicit color commands within the page description file." In identifying objects in the ODL, Vyncke identifies the corresponding color commands as taught in col. 2 line 67 – col. 3 line 3. In this description of the identification process, it appears to the Examiner that Vyncke is clearly only identifying a selected portion of the PDL commands. The claimed invention does not set forth any limitation as to how the identification of the color commands must be performed, so the fact Vyncke utilizes an ODL to assist in the identification process is not excluded in any way by the language claiming the identifying. Therefore, the Examiner maintains that Vyncke teaches

identifying implicit color commands. The Examiner relies on the teachings of Illustrator to teach the modification of the implicit color commands as set forth in the claimed invention. The Examiner believes the implicitly defined objects are described by a corresponding implicit color command. The Examiner does not recognize the difference between page objects and page commands that is asserted by Applicant. The Examiner believes the objects taught by Illustrator must have corresponding commands defining the boundaries and colors of the object. Hence, these corresponding commands are the claimed color commands. By manipulating the objects, Illustrator is manipulating the commands. The Examiner disagrees with Applicant's argument that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Vyncke and Illustrator. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality. Vyncke and Illustrator offer different modifications to implicit color commands to help improve printing quality. The combined invention would automatically identify implicit color commands in a page description language file as is taught by Vyncke, but would have the ability not only to modify the implicit color commands according to Vyncke, but would have the added benefit of converting implicit color commands according to the teaching of Illustrator. The additional implicit color command conversion techniques provided by Illustrator would enhance the ability of the combined invention to improve printing quality as is a motivation disclosed by both Vyncke and Illustrator. For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the combination of Vyncke and Illustrator teaches the invention as presented in claims 1-25.

Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 14-16 that Vyncke and Illustrator do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 26-43, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant

argues that Vyncke does not identify page description language (PDL) commands, however, the Examiner believes Vyncke does indeed identify implicit color commands despite use of an object display list (ODL). The claimed invention merely requires "identifying at least some of the implicit color commands within the page description file." In identifying objects in the ODL, Vyncke identifies the corresponding color commands as taught in col. 2 line 67 – col. 3 line 3. In this description of the identification process, it appears to the Examiner that Vyncke is clearly only identifying a selected portion of the PDL commands. The claimed invention does not set forth any limitation as to how the identification of the color commands must be performed, so the fact Vyncke utilizes an ODL to assist in the identification process is not excluded in any way by the language claiming the identifying. Therefore, the Examiner maintains that Vyncke teaches identifying implicit color commands. The Examiner relies on Illustrator to teach dividing a color command into color sub-commands. Illustrator teaches converting an identified implicit color command into a set of color sub-commands in pages 1 and 2. The figure on page 1 shows a gradient being transformed into a set of colored band sub-commands which collectively represent the former gradient implicit color command. The figure also shows a color command being converted into a plurality of color sub-commands which are individually manipulable. Illustrator also teaches on page one that a gradient can be converted into a mesh object, which is not shown in the figure. The Examiner understands a mesh object to be a combination of gradients with sub-commands determining the gradients within the mesh object. Thus, the Examiner believes that Illustrator teaches replacing an implicit color command with color sub-commands, which can be implicit color commands themselves. The Examiner disagrees with Applicant's argument that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Vyncke and

Illustrator. Both Vyncke in col. 1 line 56 – col. 2 line 12 and Illustrator is page 1 indicate that it is desirable to edit page description color commands to improve printing quality. Vyncke and Illustrator offer different modifications to implicit color commands to help improve printing quality. The combined invention would automatically identify implicit color commands in a page description language file as is taught by Vyncke, but would have the ability not only to modify the implicit color commands according to Vyncke, but would have the added benefit of converting implicit color commands according to the teaching of Illustrator. The additional implicit color command conversion techniques provided by Illustrator would enhance the ability of the combined invention to improve printing quality as is a motivation disclosed by both Vyncke and Illustrator. For these reasons, the Examiner maintains that the combination of Vyncke and Illustrator teaches the invention as presented in claims 26-43.

Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 16 and 17 that Vyncke and Illustrator do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 44-46, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons stated above with regard to claims 1-25.

Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 17 and 18 that Vyncke and Illustrator do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 47, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons stated above with regard to claims 1-25.

Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 18 and 19 that Vyncke and Illustrator do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of claim 48, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as stated above with regard to claims 1-25.

Regarding Applicant's arguments in pages 19 and 20 that Vyncke and Illustrator do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of new claim 50, the Examiner respectfully disagrees for the same reasons as stated above with regard to claims 1-25.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bagley et al., "Creating Reusable Well-Structured PDF as a Sequence of Component Object Graphic (COG) Elements", proceedings of the 2003 ACM symposium on document engineering published by ACM, November 2003, pages 58-67 discloses creating PDF pages from assemblies of component object graphic elements.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter J. Smith whose telephone number is 571-272-4101. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PJS
10/12/2005

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
10/12/2005